

Minutes

Select Board Meeting Town of Coventry Monday November 18, 2024

This meeting was recorded on Zoom and then posted to YouTube. The link to the Town's YouTube channel is at www.coventryvt.org.

Board Members Present

Scott Morley
Kerry Keement
Dan I Webster

Town Officials Present

Matt Maxwell, Town Administrator
Israel Sanville, Planning Commission

Public Present

Norm Patenaude, Pike
Chris Roy, Newport Daily

1. Order

Matt called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Persons present introduced themselves.

2. Changes or Additions to the Agenda

3. Allow for public comment

Deb T did an amazing job with the Coventry students during a mock election. It was featured in the Chronicle and provided a valuable learning experience for all involved.

4. Paving - 2025

The Select Board spoke with Norm Patenaude of Pike about the roads in town that will need a top coat in the summer. The board would also like to do a base coat on Webster Road at the suggestion of Nathan Standish, Road Foreman. Nathan feels he can implement a more efficient plowing schedule with Webster being paved. Norm P suggested it may be time for the town to consider some paving maintenance on certain roads that have both a base and

top coat, but are several years into it. Norm will check and see if Heermanville Road has received a top coat. There was some further discussion and the Select Board hopes to receive a bid from both Pike and Hutchins for the summer work. The winning bid will go before the voters at Town Meeting Day. The Select Board briefly discussed town investments after the paving talks concluded.

5. Coventry Station Road

The Town Administrator gave an update on the condition of Coventry Station Road, after speaking with project engineer Tyler Billingsley, the stay mat that was added to smooth out the road became saturated and caused some substantial ruts. The Coventry Road Crew added some stone to fix the issue and Tyler will reevaluate at the end of the week to see if any more needs to be done. A repair crew from the State of Vermont will be patching the hole in the Coventry Station Road Interstate Bridge.

6. Orleans Ambulance Contract

The Select Board reviewed the contract from Orleans Ambulance for 2025. There were no major changes and all assembled felt the service has been excellent. In the future all contracts should have three signature lines, so the entire Select Board may sign. Kerry K made the motion to accept the contract from Orleans Ambulance. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

7. Tobacco License - Vaping

The Select Board discussed the request from Royer's Mini Mart to sell Vaping products at their establishment. It was pointed out that some residents in town are against Vaping products being sold. The board felt that since the state of Vermont made it legal, they should not deny the request. Kerry K made the motion to allow Vaping products to be sold in Coventry. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

8. MERP Grant

The Town of Coventry received a MERP Grant from the State of Vermont to provide improvements to town buildings. These buildings will include the Community Center and both Town Garages. The Select Board will refer to the assessment reports done by Dubois and King as they decide on how to spend the grant money. The Select Board will inform the town that they now have grant money to complete some of the heating upgrades that were brought up at Town Meeting 2024. Chris Roy was given a synopsis of the grant and what its uses are for the town. The total amount that Coventry was awarded is \$406,032.00. Kerry K made the motion to accept the MERP Grant. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

9. Village Christmas Lights

There was a discussion about holiday lights for Lady Bird Park and the Common in the Village. The board agreed that most towns do some sort of decorating for the holidays and it would be nice if Coventry did also. The board talked about designating an amount of money for decorations and then coordinating with the Road Crew to get them up and shining. Kerry K made the motion to spend \$3,000 on holiday lights for the village. Dan W made the second and the vote was unanimous.

10. Town Report 2025

Kerry K suggested using the 20th anniversary of the Phish Concert as a theme for pictures on the cover and throughout. The Select Board agreed this was a good idea. The board briefly discussed what to include in their yearly letter.

11. Other Business

None

12. Approval of Minutes – 11/4

Dan W made the motion to approve the minutes of 11/4/2024.

Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous.

13. Warrants

Dan W made the motion to accept the warrants. Kerry K made the second and the vote was unanimous.

14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:15pm.

DRAFT